

Wayne County Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. Constitutional Bylaws

Adopted 1/12/2007
(Amended Oct. 9, 2009)

Article I, Name:

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Wayne County Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.
(A Not-for-Profit Corporation, Section 102)

Article II, Objectives:

Section 1. The object of this club shall be: "To stimulate interest in the collection of minerals and fossils, and in cutting of stones. To disseminate knowledge of lapidary work, mineralogy, collecting and classification of minerals and fossils for greater pleasure. To foster the cultural aspects of, and the comradeship engendered by the study of these subjects. To hold meetings, exhibits, field trips, auctions, etc. for the encouragement of interest of members and the public in this recreation and educational hobby. To invite guests and prospective members to monthly meetings."

Section 2. The organization shall be non-political, non-commercial.

Section 3. To conduct its affairs without profit and to refrain from using its assets for financial benefit of any individual, organization, or group.

Section 4. To devote all the assets, property, and funds of the corporation to furtherance of the primary objectives and purposes of the corporation. Its works, purposes, and objects are primarily educational, recreational, and social, and solely in the interests of the advancement of the members and of the public along scientific and educational lines.

Section 5. To encourage and assist in the development of junior members by initiating and promoting projects whose goals are to promote participation by younger people in the activities of the club.

Section 6. To affiliate with similar organizations.

A. Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc. (EFMLS).

B. Eastern Field Trip Alliance (EFTA)

Article III, Membership:

Section 1. Membership in this club shall be divided into three classes.

1. Regular membership: All men and women over 18, interested in the hobby of gems, minerals, fossils, as recreation or education. Family membership to include all children under 18.

2. Juniors: Persons younger than 18 who wish to join on their own. Juniors shall be adult sponsored. Junior members can not be an officer or director.

3. Honorary Membership: shall be given to a person who has offered distinguished service to the hobby, by vote of membership. He shall not vote, hold office, or pay dues.

Section 2. Any member with particular hobby abilities, shall be willing to act as teacher in club projects or programs.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall vote on all New memberships.

Section 4. All new members shall be given a copy of these Constitutional Bylaws, Club digging rules, Club quarry rules, and the American Federation "Code of Ethics".

Article IV, Dues:

Section 1. The fiscal year shall run from October 1 to September 30. Current dues shall be \$15.00 per year for single membership, \$20.00 for family membership and Juniors (whose parents are not in the club) shall be \$10.00 per year.

Article V, Officers and Directors:

Section 1. The executive officers of the club shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the executive officers, the immediate past-President, and four Directors from the members-at large.

Section 3. The duties of the officers shall be:

President: shall preside over all regular, board, and special meetings, select committee chairpersons, and perform all the usual duties of the presidential office. Shall be a member of all committees except the nominating committee. Shall coordinate the duties of other officers and committee chairpersons. Shall not vote, except in case of a tie. Shall be a member of the Eastern Federation executive committee.

Vice-President: shall preside over meetings in the absence of the President.

Secretary: shall keep records of all club and director meetings, and summer activities. Shall read the minutes of each preceding meeting, and shall be custodian of club records, keeping an accurate list of paid members. Shall send all notices to members.

Treasurer: shall collect dues, receive all money due the club and pay all bills when expenditures are approved by the majority of the board members. Shall present monthly and annual report to membership. When public meeting is held, the report shall not be read, but held until next meeting to be read.

Section 4. All Officers and Directors shall be active members whose interest is primarily hobby-oriented.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall meet in making or suggesting plans, ideas, or projects of the club and voting on all actions brought before the Board.

Section 6. The Board of Directors shall vote on the following actions:

- A. Filling Board Vacancies.
- B. New Memberships.
- C. Removing members for detrimental conduct.
- D. Payment of routine expenditures up to \$200. Any expenditures over \$200.00, routine or otherwise, shall be voted on by the general membership.
- E. Any matter that can not be delayed until the next board or general membership meeting.
- F. Yearly, approval of descriptions of the duties of all chairpersons and committees.
- G. Modifications of duties and task of all chairpersons and committees.
- H. Yearly, approval of President's choice of committees and chairpersons, except the nomination committee.
- I. Any matter that is in accord with the Bylaws.

Article VI, Committees and Chairpersons:

Section 1. The following positions and committees will be selected by the President and voted on by the Board by the December meeting: Fieldtrip Chairperson, Membership chairperson, Program Chairperson, Newsletter Editor, Hospitality Chairperson, Safety Chairperson, Librarian, Property Chairperson, Auditor, Club Liaison, and any other that are needed.

Section 2. The President at the September meeting shall appoint a nominating committee of three members.

Article VII, Elections:

Section 1. The nominating committee shall present to the membership at the October meeting a list of nominees, with their approval. Additional names may be nominated from the floor subject to prior approval of nominees. Election of officers shall take place at this time.

Section 2. Voting shall be by secret ballot. At the close of nominations for each office, if there is only one nominee, the president shall declare that person elected. Only those with paid up dues may vote or hold office. A majority of votes cast shall constitute election of any new offices.

Section 3. New officers shall take office on the first day of November following their election and end on the last day of October of the appropriate year.

Section 4. All offices will be a term of two consecutive years, as with term changes in 11/2006. Two of the four Directors at Large will be voted upon every year, for a two year term. Immediate Past President shall serve on the board for two consecutive years only.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to fill any vacancy that might occur in any office until the vacancy for the unexpired term can be filled by election at the next election.

Article VIII, Meetings:

Section 1. The regular meeting of the club shall be the second Friday of the month (or the first Friday in case of activity conflict). Time to be determined by the Board of directors after the October elections. (Amended Oct. 9, 2009)

Section 2. Special meetings and/or meeting places may be called by the President or the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall meet as often as deemed necessary at the call of the President or the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Quorum:

A. A quorum for the Board of Directors shall be 5 Board members.

B. A quorum for meetings of the general membership shall be all who are present at the meeting plus the mail ballots returned by the required postmark date, as published in the club newsletter. For election it will be those that are present for that (publicized in the club newsletter) meeting.

Section 5. General membership voting:

A. One (1) vote per paid single or junior membership and two (2) votes per family membership.

B. Voting, other than elections, maybe done by attending a meeting or by mail ballots to the official club mailing address.

C. Email for all voting, except elections, if allowed by the board as instructions in the Club newsletter.

D. Voting shall be on:

1. Election of officers and Directors by attending meeting only.

2. Routine expenditures over \$200 and non-routine expenditures.

3. Amendments of the Constitutional Bylaws.

4. Anything not covered in the Bylaws or comes before the membership that has been published in the club newsletter that is not time sensitive.

5. Dissolution of the Club.

Article IX, Amendments:

Section 1. Any By-laws may be amended by 2/3 vote at any regular meeting, after publicizing changes in the club newsletter and the required postmark date at the club's official mailing address for mail ballots.

Article X, Advisory Council:

Section 1. Past Presidents of this club shall constitute an advisory council, with no regular meetings, and shall act in the role of elder statesmen

Article XI, Parliamentary Authority:

Section 1. Unless stated in these Constitutional Bylaws, "Roberts Rules of Order" shall govern the club.

Article XII, Personal Conduct of Members:

Section 1. Members shall conduct themselves befitting an educational organization, upholding hobby standards at all club affairs and at any other event pertaining to the hobby in general. The American Federation "Code of Ethics" shall be in effect at all times, with members knowing and abiding by it. Anyone guilty of detrimental conduct shall be removed from the club by a majority vote of the Board of Directors

Article XIII, Field Trips:

Section 1. Members shall not use any explosives of any kind, or use power tools, at all collecting areas, except where allowed when permission is granted. Members should use extra precaution when using power tools.

Section 2. Property rights on collecting areas shall be respected. (See Art.XII, Sec.1) Always ask for permission and thank the landlord for use. And, always leave it cleaner than you found it.

Section 3. Trip Chairperson and Safety Chairperson shall be in charge of enforcing club and quarry safety rules and the collecting "Code of Ethics", and shall report to the Board of Directors, all infringements.

Section 4. Official field trips:

- A. To be an official club field trip, any one or more of the following has to take place:
 - 1. Club field trip has to be published in the club newsletter.
 - 2. Announced in advance at a regular club meeting by field trip Chairperson or President of the club.
 - 3. Announced to all club members by field trip phone-tree 48 hours in advance.
 - 4. Any Eastern Field Trip Alliance (EFTA) field trip as long as Wayne County Gem & Mineral Club is a member in good standing with EFTA.
- B. Guests may be allowed as long as they are voted on and approved by the Board of Directors.

Article XIV, Official Events:

- A. To be an official club event, any one or more of the following has to take place:
 - 1. The event has to be published in the club newsletter.
 - 2. The event has to be announced in advance at a regular club meeting.
 - 3. Announced to all club members by phone-tree 48 hours in advance.
 - 4. Any Eastern Field Trip Alliance (EFTA) event as long as Wayne County Gem & Mineral Club is a member in good standing with EFTA.
 - 5. Any event that the club is invited to that is voted on and approved by the Board of Directors.
- C. Guests may be allowed as long as they are voted on and approved by the Board of Directors.

Article XV, History of Club:

Section 1. The Wayne County Historian's office shall do all archival storage of historical records and information.

Article XVI, Dissolution of Club:

Section 1. In the event of dissolution of this Club by the membership, all remaining funds and club property shall be turned over to the Eastern or American Federation Fund, or to other hobby groups or clubs with similar aims and purposes.

Section 2. All records/ documents/ archives would be given over to the Wayne Co. Historian's office for archival storage and care. Future provenance shall be considered under the exclusive domain of the Wayne Co. Historian. The last Secretary of the Board is responsible for handing the material over to the Wayne Co. Historian at the completion of dissolution.